

**Amendments to the Claims**

1-7. (Cancelled)

8. (Currently amended) A transgenic plant comprising a nucleic acid encoding a microbial  $\beta$ -1,4-endoglucanase. The transgenic plant of claim 16 wherein said nucleic acid is stably integrated into a nuclear or plastid genome of the plant and is under control of -wherein the inducible promoter is a wound inducible or chemically-inducible promoter.

9. (Currently amended) The transgenic plant according to claim 8, wherein said chemically-inducible promoter is one of a PR-1, PR-1a, PR-2, PR-3, PR-4, and PR-5 promoter.

10-13. (Cancelled)

14. (Previously presented) The transgenic plant according to claim 30, wherein said bacterium is a *Thermomonospora* bacteria.

15. (Previously presented) The transgenic plant according to claim 14, wherein said bacterium is *T. fusca*.

16-19. (Cancelled)

20. (Currently amended) A The transgenic plant of claim 19 comprising a nucleic acid encoding a microbial  $\beta$ -1,4-endoglucanase and vacuole targeting sequence, wherein said nucleic acid is stably integrated into a nuclear or plastid genome of the plant and is under control of a promoter active in plants wherein said targeting sequence comprises a vacuole-targeting sequence.

21. (Currently amended) The transgenic plant of claim 8 [[6]] , wherein the endoglucanase is thermostable.

22. (Currently amended) A transgenic seed obtained from the plant of claim 8 [[6]].

23. (Currently amended) A transgenic seed obtained from the plant of claim 8 [[6]] , wherein said seed comprises said nucleic acid.

24-29. (Cancelled)

30. (currently amended) The transgenic plant of claim 8 [[13]], wherein said microorganism is a bacterium or fungus.

31. (New) The transgenic plant according to claim 20, wherein said microbe is *Thermomonospora*.

32. (New) The transgenic plant of claim 20, wherein the endoglucanase is thermostable.

33. (New) A transgenic seed obtained from the plant of claim 20.

34. (New) A transgenic seed obtained from the plant of claim 20, wherein said seed comprises said nucleic acid.